

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A signal receiving method comprising:

acquiring an occurrence frequency of a multipath noise in a signal by detecting a number of multipath noises  
5 occurred in the signal within a predetermined time; and  
controlling a stereo separation ratio for decoding the signal in accordance with the occurrence frequency of the multipath noise.

2. The signal receiving method as claimed in claim 1,  
10 wherein the controlling of the stereo separation ratio comprises:

controlling a time constant in accordance with the occurrence frequency of a multipath noise; and

controlling a stereo separation ratio for decoding  
15 the signal in accordance with the time constant.

3. The signal receiving method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the controlling of the stereo separation ratio comprises:

controlling a restoration time from a monaural mode  
20 to a stereo mode in accordance with the occurrence frequency of the multipath noise.

4. The signal receiving method as claimed in claim 3, wherein the controlling of the stereo separation ratio comprises:

25 lengthening the restoration time as the multipath

noise occurrence frequency is increased; and

shortening the restoration time as the multipath noise occurrence frequency is decreased.

5. A signal receiving apparatus comprising:

5 a multipath detection section configured to acquire an occurrence frequency of a multipath noise in a signal by detecting a number of multipath noises occurred in the signal within a predetermined time; and

a control section configured to control a stereo  
10 separation ratio for decoding the signal in accordance with the occurrence frequency of the multipath noise.

6. The signal receiving apparatus as claimed in claim 5, wherein the control section comprises:

a time constant part configured to control a time  
15 constant in accordance with the occurrence frequency of a multipath noise; and

a separation controlling part configured to control a stereo separation ratio for decoding the signal in accordance with the time constant.

20 7. The signal receiving apparatus as claimed in claim 5, wherein the control section comprises:

a separation controlling part configured to control a restoration time from a monaural mode to a stereo mode in accordance with the occurrence frequency of the  
25 multipath noise.

8. The signal receiving apparatus as claimed in claim  
7, wherein the separation controlling part lengthens the  
restoration time as the multipath noise occurrence  
frequency increases, and shortens the restoration time as  
5 the multipath noise occurrence frequency decreases.

9. The signal receiving apparatus as claimed in claim  
8, wherein the signal receiving apparatus is installed on  
a mobile object.